

Message Text

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SUBJ: SIXTH SESSION WMO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION (RA) VI -

EUROPE, BUCHAREST

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 4298; (B) BUCHAREST 4289

1. SUMMARY. SIXTH SESSION WMO REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI (EUROPE) COMPLETED NINE-DAY REVIEW OF AGENDA COVERING ARRANGEMENTS FOR COLLECTION AND EXCHANGE OF WEATHER INFORMATION WITHIN EUROPE. NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS UNRESOLVED AND CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS MADE IN IMPROVING FACILITIES FOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES IN EUROPE. EMPHASIS GIVEN TO CONTINUATION OF NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN WEATHER STATIONS WHICH THEY HOPE NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES WILL SUPPORT. SCHNEIDER (SWITZERLAND) RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ASSOCIATION. END SUMMARY

2. THE REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI COMPLETED ITS AGENDA SEPT. 25, 1974, RE-ELECTING R. SCHNEIDER (SWITZERLAND) FOR ANOTHER FOUR-YEAR TERM AS PRESIDENT. CIOVIEA (ROMANIA) AND ICZELNAI (HUNGARY) NOMINATED FOR VICE PRESIDENT. AFTER TWO DAYS OF UNCERTAINTY, ROMANIA UNCLASSIFIED

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WITHDREW THEIR CANDIDATE AND CZELNAI THEN ELECTED BY

ACCLAMATION.

3. DURING DISCUSSION OF REPORT OF PRESIDENT, SOVIET DELEGATE ASKED ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT USSR PROPOSAL TO UN FOR A CONVENTION PROHIBITING ARTIFICIAL MODIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENT AND OF CLIMATE FOR MILITARY AND OTHER NON-PEACEFUL PURPOSES. AFTER STRONG OBJECTION OF FRANCE, REPORT WAS RE-DRAFTED TO INDICATE THAT, WHILE SOME MEMBERS SUPPORTED THIS REQUEST, OTHERS FELT IT WAS QUOTE PREMATURE AND INAPPROPRIATE UNQUOTE TO DISCUSS THIS PROPOSAL WHILE IT WAS BEING DEBATED AT UNGA.

4. PRESIDENT SCHNEIDER SUBMITTED LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR WORK OF SESSION OVER NEXT FOUR YEARS. THESE DEALT WITH CUSTOMARY REGIONAL PROBLEMS, EXCEPT FOR STUDY OF QUOTE METEOROLOGICAL ASSISTANCE IN PREPARING ESTIMATES OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION UNQUOTE AND QUOTE REGIONAL ASPECTS OF POSSIBLE CLIMATE FLUCTUATIONS UNQUOTE. THE ASSOCIATION ACCEPTED POSSIBLE NEED FOR EXTRAORDINARY SESSION IN 1976 AND BELGIAN DELEGATE SAID HIS COUNTRY PREPARED TO HOST IF MEETING AGREED UPON.

5. DURING DEBATE ON REGIONAL OBSERVING STATIONS, EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO NEED FOR CONTINUING NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN WEATHER STATION (NAOS) PROGRAM, WITH FOUR STATIONS ACCEPTED AS QUOTE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM UNQUOTE IN EASTERN ATLANTIC. DURING INFORMAL MEETING OF MAIN NAOS SUPPORTERS, USSR STATED THAT IT PREPARED TO OPERATE ONE STATION UNDER NEW WMO PROGRAM WITHOUT RE-IMBURSEMENT, WITH POSSIBILITY ADDITIONAL STATION BEING OPERATED AS PROGRAM DEVELOPS. ASSOCIATION CONCERNED OVER WITHDRAWAL OF OCEAN STATIONS IN WESTERN ATLANTIC AND ADOPTED RECOMMENDATION URGING REGIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR NORTH AMERICA TO RECONSIDER ITS NETWORK OF STATIONS IN THAT PART OF ITS REGION.

6. METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITE SYSTEMS WERE RECOGNIZED AS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO BOTH THE OBSERVING SYSTEM AS WELL AS TO DATA COLLECTION AND TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS. PLANS FOR DIRECT RECEPTION OF VERTICAL TEMPERATURE SOUNDING DATA BY NORDIC COUNTRIES HAVE HOWEVER NOT YET UNCLASSIFIED

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MATERIALIZED AND ONLY FRANCE IS PRESENTLY USING THIS INFORMATION. POSSIBILITY FOR GREATER USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY OF GEOSTATIONARY SATELLITES WILL BE STUDIED, AS WILL DATA COLLECTION FROM SHIPS AT SEA.

7. ALLOCATION OF INTERNATIONAL STATION INDEX TO WEATHER STATIONS IN THE TWO GERMANIES WAS AGREED AS PROPOSED IN REF (B), BUT GDR EFFORTS TO HAVE NOTE INSERTED IN WMO

DOCUMENTS WAS NOT ADOPTED. GDR AND FRG DELEGATES MADE STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD.

8. THE NEED FOR AUTOMATIC WEATHER BUOYS IN THE SEA AREAS NEAR EUROPE WAS STRESSED AND SEVERAL MEMBERS INFORMED THE ASSOCIATION THAT DEVELOPMENT WORK ON SUCH BUOYS WAS CONTINUING. THE NORDIC COUNTRIES PLAN TO PLACE A BUOY BETWEEN GREENLAND AND ICELAND OR OVER THE MID-ATLANTIC RIDGE SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF ICELAND.

9. IN CONNECTION WITH DISCUSSION OF WEATHER ANALYSIS AND FORECASTING PROBLEMS OF EUROPE, INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED ON NEW EUROPEAN CENTER FOR MEDIUM RANGE WEATHER FORECASTS BEING SET UP IN UK UNDER 17-MEMBER AGREEMENT. USSR EXPRESSED OBJECTION TO DESIGNATING THIS FACILITY AS QUOTE EUROPEAN CENTER UNQUOTE SINCE ALL WMO MEMBERS HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS PLANNING. DIRECTOR OF CENTER (WIIN-NIELSEN) EXPLAINED THAT TREATY GOVERNING CENTER WOULD BE OPEN TO ADHERENCE BY OTHER WMO MEMBERS ONCE IT CAME INTO FORCE. SOVIETS APPEARED CONCERNED THE NEW CENTER WOULD DIMINISH ROLE IN EUROPE OF WORLD WEATHER CENTER, MOSCOW.

10. REGIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM DEVELOPING SATISFACTORILY AND MOST MEMBERS EXPECT TO COMPLETE THEIR INSTALLATION OF HIGH-SPEED CIRCUITS BY 1975.

11. DURING SCIENTIFIC LECTURE ON AGRICULTURAL METEOROLOGY AND WORLD FOOD PROGRAM CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED OVER COMPLEXITY OF PROBLEM AND THE RISK OF OVER-OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATION THAT WMO COULD PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL INPUT TO SOLUTION OF WORLD FOOD PROBLEMS AT THIS STAGE. WHILE CLOSER COOPERATION WAS URGED WITH FAO, UNCLASSIFIED

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VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED BY SOME MEMBERS THAT LONG TERM STUDIES WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES COULD BE MADE IN SOLVING CROP-WEATHER RELATIONSHIPS.

12. THE SESSION WAS HAMPERED SOMEWHAT DUE TO ABSENCE OF MOST OF MEMBERS FROM THE SOUTHERN AND LESS DEVELOPED PART OF THE REGION, AS ONLY 26 OUT OF 35 MEMBERS TOOK PART. ALL DEVELOPING MEMBERS WERE URGED TO MAKE GREATER EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SOME SUPPORT UNDER THEIR COUNTRY PROGRAMS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE UNDP AND TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER MEMBERS IN DEVELOPING INTER-COUNTRY PROGRAMS. PRIORITY WAS STRESSED FOR A REGIONAL SEMINAR ON APPLICATION OF METEOROLOGY TO AIR POLLUTION IN CITIES. BARNES

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